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July 8, 1987

Dr. Joshua Lederberg, President
Rockefeller University
1230 York Avenue
New York, NY 10021

Dear Josh:

I have had your "Perspectives" typed and put on a disk which is being sent to Jan Drake. I am enclosing a print out.

I have only one comment of substance. The number of base pairs in E. coli is about 5000, not 2000. According to Fred Blattner, a value with two-digit accuracy is 4700.

I have also enclosed a xerox of your original manuscript, with some marginal notes by Bill Dove. These may or may not lead you to make changes. I'll leave that entirely to you. If you do make changes, the best thing would be to mark up the print out and send it directly to Jan. His final deadline is July 24.

The Roth references that Bill mentioned are:

Schmid, M. B., and J. R. Roth. 1983. Genetic methods for analysis and manipulation of inversion mutations in bacteria. Genetics 105: 517-537.

Schmid, M. B., and J. R. Roth. 1983. Selection and endpoint distribution of bacterial inversion mutations. Genetics 105: 539-557.

As I said earlier, I enjoyed reading your piece. It brought back all sorts of happy memories of an exciting period in the history of genetics, both locally and globally.

All the best.

Sincerely,

xc: John Drake